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## MORAL AND ENTERTAINING

# FABLES;

WITH COPPERPLATES,

For the Amusement of Children.



#### PART I.

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# ENTERTAINING FABLES.

#### INTRODUCTORY FABLE.

The Sheep, the Dog, and the Rabbit.

A SHEEP, a dog, and a rabbit, by chance met together in a meadow: each of them purfued a different amusement. The dog ran and played about the grass; the sheep enjoyed the richness and fertility of the verdure; while the rabbit was endeavouring to grub up the ground.

A 2

MORAL.

MORAL. A book of fables refembles this verdant meadow; and my young readers, are the sheep, the dog, and the rabbit, here displayed:—one reads for amusement only;— a second for improvement and benefit; and a third is neither amused nor instructed.

#### The Wolves and the Lamb.

Once a lamb faw two wolves fighting with the greatest animosity. Full of compassion, it drew near them, and endeavoured with gentle and impressive arguments to assuage their rancorous dispositions, and restore mutual harmony. This object it at length accomplished; but, no sooner were they reconciled, than they resolved to divide the innocent peace-maker between them.

MORAL. Be cautious of interfering in the strife of malicious and evil disposed persons.

## The Horse and the Wasp.

A LITTLE wasp having severely stung a horse, the latter kicked and pranced about with, an intention of destroying its tormentor.-" Your exertion is in vain," faid the wasp; "for I am in such a secure place on your slank, that you cannot hurt me." The horse now tried the effect of mild treatment, and begged the wasp to defift; which drew the following reply from the little animal: "Mild words will often effect what rude and violent treatment cannot; -as a proof of which, I will not fling you any more."

MORAL. Solomon has wifely faid, "A

foft answer turneth away wrath."

#### The Bee and the Hornet.

A HORNET once regarding the bee at her industrious occupations, exclaimed, "Humph!—what is the use of so much nicety and mechanical precision in forming this hive?—What a formal and flow occupation yours is!—The time you waste in this needless regularity might have been employed



employed to a better purpose." "Do not interrupt me, my friend," answered the bee; "though irregularity seems to promote dispatch, in the end it is sure to retard business; for his work is half done who proceeds in it methodically."

#### The Ass:

An Ass, in the course of his journey, came to a river, on the opposite side of which he saw some very fine thistles. He anxiously

anxiously wished to partake of the delight-ful treat; but was too idle, notwithstand-ing he could swim.—"Ah!" thought he, "I will lie down here, and rest till the fream is dry, when I shall attain my object with more ease." After remaining on the spot a whole day, the river still continued to slow as it did at sirst; but, his strength was fo much exhausted by hunger, that he was incapable either of walking or fwimming.

Moral. My child, this journey refembles life: the stream between is time; beyond which lies happiness and content. By industry and application you may pass over; but, if you neglect the opportunity, in youth, when the powers are firong and vigorous, it will remain unaccomplished in

old age.

## The young Fox.

Young Reynard, whose father with great earnestness had frequently warned him to be guarded against spring traps and such other destructive engines, and who had recently seen the heads of two of his com-· panions



panions snapped off in this way, came to a trap, which was very ingeniously concealed, and most temptingly baited.—"I know you well," exclaimed, the young fox, smiling: "you shall not take off my head; I shall be as cautious of coming too near you, as my father has ever been. Ah! but," said he, archly to himself, "if I could contrive any means of obtaining the booty, without risking my neck, how I should rejoice at being more cunning than my old father!—Ay, now I have it—I will carefully keep my head out of the trap's reach, and seize the prey with

my claws: this method will be certain and fafe."—He accordingly darted at it with his claws, and faved his head; but, what he had not provided against, he lost his foot.

MORAL. If your parents or friends advise you to avoid horses, arms, or any other dangerous thing, follow their counsel, and do not think that your own judgment is adequate to guard you from accidents.

#### The two Fregs.

An exceedingly dry fummer had fo parched up a marsh, that the frogs who had generally resided there, were obliged to look out for another place of abode. Two of them came to a very deep well, in which was plenty of water.—" Look here!" exclaimed one, " why need we proceed any farther—let us at once leap down into this well." "That is easy enough," replied the other; " but, if this should become dry, how should we leap up again?"

MORAL. Before you undertake any thing, reflect upon the confequences. What may be of fervice to day, may prove de-

structive to-morrow.

The



#### The Ape and the Dog.

A pointer had for some time taken particular notice of the leaps and vagaries of the ape, when the latter said, "Do you think that you could display such art and ingenuity?—I suppose, unless you meant to rival me, you would not be so observant."——"You very much mistake me," replied the dog, "it is my aim to learn wisdom from the sool, and by a close observation of your manners, to avoid the monkey tricks which you take so much pride in."

### The patient Sheep.

THERE was a sheep so charming from its innocent countenance, its fine sleecy coat, and its harmless pranks, that the son of the gentleman whose property it was, took it home for his amusement. Having played with it for a length of time, till he was tired, it was again returned to the slock. During its domestic confinement, it had endured many sufferings from the wildness of its young master; and now no longer dreaded shearing, or the other hardships incidental to the slock; for its early privations had taught it patience.

MORAL. In youth be patient under fuffering, and learn to bear wrongs meek-

ly.

#### The verdant Mountain.

"How beautifully am I clad," faid the mountain: "how richly decked with verdure and flowers!—My fummit is tufted with a fhady wood, in which the nightingale delights to fing. I am the joy of the shepherd, and the solace of his slock.—

A O

And



And dares you defolate rock venture to And dares you desolate rock venture to raise its head above me? whose slinty and barren soil cannot support even a poor goat!" A mole hearing this pompous speech, replied, "Thou vain mountain, I have already dug my way through you both, and can appreciate your relative values. It is true you boast of your external embellishments, but within you contain only shalk and stone, while the rock. tain only chalk and stone; while the rock, which appears to you so sterile and worth-less, is replete with gold and silver ores. MORAL. Merit is not to be estimated

by outward appearance.

The



### The Ape and the Squirret.

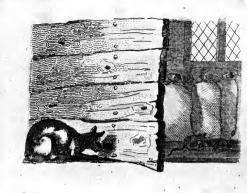
A SPORTIVE squirrel leaped from tree to tree, and frolicked among the branches.

An ape saw this, (an ape, every one knows, is a very droll creature,) and, having stedsastly regarded the tricks of the squirrel for some time, suddenly climbed up an oak, in order by his comic feats to gain the palm from the squirrel. Bounding from branch to branch, and tree to tree, he suddenly slipped down, and broke his leg. Moved by his cries, his apish brethren assembled round him, to whom he

gave this caution, "Never to imitate the extravagant follies of others!"

## The Butterfly.

A PERT proud butterfly, whose wings were beautifully variegated and studded with gold, frisked about the most charming slowers, exclaiming, "How beautiful I am!—Are you not enchanted with my dress!—Where will you find a creature so elegant as I am!"—It happened that this little coxcomb was met by a busy bee; to whom she said contemptuously, "Away with you, you bumming, ugly insect!"—"
"Simpleton!" retorted the bee, smiling, "you are unacquainted with my worth!—come and see my house. Industry and utility are real ornaments, but of what service to you or to the world is your gaudy attire!"



# The Cat, the Mouse, and the young Mouse.

CAT. Come, hither, my dear little mouse, you shall rest in these arms.

OLD MOUSE. Do not go near her, my darling, but stay with me; for the cat kills and eats little mice like you, therefore attend to what I say, and keep with me.

CAT. Look, my dear, I have a nice piece of cheese here, and if you will give

me a kiss, it shall be yours.

Young Mouse. Now, my dear mother, do permit me to go.—The cheese is so tempting,

tempting, and I shall have it all for one kis.

OLD MOUSE. No, no, my daughter, it will be dangerous.—The cheefe that looks so nice is only a bait to entrap you.

CAT. Why do you not come, my dear. Besides the cheese, I have a piece of sweet cake, and roast meat, which is all meant for you.

Young Mouse. Let me but go, mother,—indeed I must—and you shall have

half of these nice things.

OLD MOUSE. Again I entreat, I advise you not to go.—You will be a richer feast for the cat, than her cakes will be for you.

CAT. I hurt you, my little dear! Do not believe your mother—but come to

me, and try.

Young Mouse. Here I am then,—and now, as you promifed, give me the cakes and the meat!—O dear, ah me!—fhe is killing me, my dear mother.—Oh help, help!

OLD MOUSE. Alas! my daughter, it is now too late!—You have made your-felf the deferved victim of disobedience!



## The Fly.

"THERE is nothing more cruel than the fwallow," faid the fly; "for no fooner do they behold us, than we fall a prey to their voracity." As the fly uttered this complaint, she flew into an adjoining stable. "Here," faid she, "I am safe from such destroyers!"—But on looking about, she found she was every where surrounded with cobwebs, and spiders.—"Stupid that I am," exclaimed she, "why do I not visit palaces;—no such guests are permitted there." She immediately winged her way

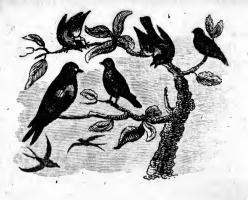
to court, and exclaimed, "How delightful is every thing! here I shall live undisturbed by swallow or spider." Behold, at the approach of evening, innumerable tapers were lighted.—"Ah!" exclaimed the sly, "how enchanting this is!—now I can enjoy the night as well as day!"—Scarcely had she pronounced this, when she approached too near the slame of a candle, and her wings being singed, the sell and was trodden to death!

MORAL. If, my dear children, you fee danger, it is right to shun it; but learn also, to avoid that danger which lurks un-

der the mask of pleasure.

## The young Linnet.

A YOUNG linnet, placed in a warm neft, poured forth its notes when the fnow of winter enlivened the ground. In May it fung the notes of fpring; but, taking a great fancy to the company of fparrows and swallows, it soon lost its own fine warbling, and, at the end of the summer, could only imitate the simple cherupping of its companions.



MORAL. Thus is many a hopeful youth injured by the influence of bad company. Evil communications corrupt good manners.

### The Bee and the Blue-bottle Fly.

FLY. You are always bufy, little Miss Bee; I am forry to disturb you; but, if I do not, my dear, you will injure your fight by too much exertion. Come, let us be merry, for we ought sometimes to enjoy

joy ourselves: so leave your labour, and come with me.

BEE. My labours are a pleasure. It is what I am brought up to.—The life of idleness you lead would be painful to me;—besides, what would our queen say?

FLY. Well, Miss Industry, if you will not leave of, I will go myself to the queen, and preser a complaint that you are always idling your time, and busy about nothing.

BEE. Do as you please;—even if I should suffer by your malignity, my innocence will be my consolation, which I would not exchange for all your pleasures.

### The Badger and the Squirrel.

"Where are you going so hastily," said the badger to the squirrel; "step in a little while."—"What is it you want?" said the squirrel.

BADGER. As I fit at home, I can fee you perpetually leaping from branch to branch, and sporting among the hazel bushes; I am surprised that you are never tired.—To me you appear never to take any rest, and yet are always lively; while I,

who do nothing, am incapable of the least exertion.

SQUIRREL. My good badger, there is no difficulty in explaining this—while you continually fit within your hole, as if you were chained to it, it is easy to account for your lassitude.-Want of exercise increases indolence; but those who are fond of active and industrious pursuits, soon take a pleasure in them.

### The imaginary Danger.

"Bless me," exclaimed a young pigeon, what strange creatures there are upon the earth!— The very fight of them almost frightens us to death. Ah, my dear mother, for such inexperienced children as I, it were better to stay at home, unless their parents go with them. I was just now in fuch a perilous fituation, that I thought I should have lost my life."

"Thus it happens, my dear," faid the mother, quite alarmed, "when children think themselves wifer than their parents. -I suppose a cat was near seizing you."

"O no, mother!" replied the young pigeon,



pigeon, "I am not quite fo simple as that, though I am but young."

"Then I supppose the hawk was approaching while you were on your journey.

"Oh, how you talk!—I know better

than to let him come near me."

"Then what was this dreadful thing, chatterbox?—for you keep me in fuf-

"Do not be angry, mother, and I will tell you.—As I was flying about the fields, I faw an enormous animal, with four long wings, and a great body; but I could not fee his feet, as they were hidden under him, as he fat on the grass. He had placed himself on the top of a hill, and I, not suspecting it was any thing alive, had feated myself on the point of one of his wings.—Directly he perceived this, he began to flutter and shake his monstrous pinions, and so terrible was the noise, that I slew away, without even venturing once to look behind me."

"For shame, you simpleton!—you make a jest of things that are really dangerous, and are terrified at things which in their nature are harmless. The enormous bird at which you are so terrified, is nothing but a machine; the wings are affixed to it, and set in motion by the wind; in short, with men, it is called a windmill.

MORAL. Children, who are infensible of real danger, and think themselves very courageous, resemble this pigeon. In the dark, they are alarmed at every strange appearance, and even a slick dressed up with a coat, appears to them an object of terror.



The Woodcutter and the Cuckoo.

A woodman was bufily employed in erecting a habitation for his family. "Simpleton!" faid a cuckoo, "how much useless trouble you take to prepare a house. The first empty nest I can find always serves me for a residence."—"I thank you, master cuckoo," replied the woodman, "for your counsel. You have no interest in your home; but labour renders the possession of mine more sweet and independent.



The Peacock and the Nightingale.

THE peacock faid to the nightingale, in a tone of disdain, "How ugly you are, when compared to me!" "Perhaps so!" replied the nightingale; and immediately flying away, perched upon a neighbouring elm, and fung most melodiously.—Her notes attracted the attention of every passenger, who stopped to listen; and exclaimed, "How beautiful is her song!"—The proud peacock strutted about, and displayed her sine plumage, but no one remarked that she was beautiful.

PART I.

MORAL.

MORAL. Learn hence, that the endowments of the mind are superior to those of the person.

## The Wolf and the Shepherds.

A wolr once clad himself in a sheep's skin, and mixed among the flock in this disguise.—For several days he continued his purpose, every evening carrying off and devouring a sheep; at length the shepherd, in counting his slock, discovered his loss, sought out the wicked intruder, and killed him.

This shepherd had a son, who at times assisted him in keeping the sheep, but who was absent at the time the above villany took place. He was, as you may imagine, much surprised at his return, to find the carcase of a dead wolf, and the loss that had been sustained.—" Who would in this innocent dress," said he, "have looked for a wolf?"

"Learn this moral, my son," replied his father, "that men, as well as animals, are to be estimated by their actions, and not by their appearance."

The



## The Ape and the Walnuts:

A CERTAIN ape came into a country where he was told walnuts grew in abundance, and that they were very pleafant eating—The first time he was hungry, he climbed a tree, and brought some down; but on putting one of them into his mouth, he found it extremely hot and bitter. Having made his way through the outer pulp, he came to the outer shell, which proved as hard as the first was nauseous.—In a paffion he at last threw all he had gathered away; exclaiming, "All that I have been told about

about the goodness of these nuts is a story;
—instead of which, I have been almost
poisoned, and my teeth broken in cracking them."—Thus, he never reached to the
kernel, but resembled many children, who,
for the sake of a little trouble, throw away
a great deal of pleasure!

#### The crooked Tree.

Among a number of tall, straight, and flourishing trees, there happened to grow a humble crooked one, who constantly endured the scoff of his proud companions. The proprietor of the estate one day went with a timber-merchant to survey the wood. An agreement was soon made, and the ensuing week a number of woodmen were employed to sell the trees,—when the only one that escaped the axe, was the poor, despised, crooked one.

MORAL. Beauty often involves us in that danger which natural deformity ef-

capes.

#### The Hart and the Fox.

An envious fox, after having for a confiderable time admired the fymmetry of a fine hart, began to cenfure the thinnels of his legs.—" Indeed!" replied the hart to him who brought this intelligence, "now am I more particularly fensible of the indulgent kindnels of nature in forming me, fince envy can find but one fault in my shape!"

MORAL. We ought not to be vexed because others may find some blemish in us; since their censure may serve to un-

fold our other perfections.

## The young Fly.

A YOUNG fly, fitting on the hob of the fire-fide, where a pot was boiling, was defired by her mother to remain there, while she was obliged to go away upon some temporary business. The young one conceitedly asked the reason of this injunction, and was informed, it was to prevent her from coming too near to that boiling fountain, (meaning the pot.)

3 Young



Young FLY, Why should I not go near it?

OLD FLY. It is dangerous:—you may fall in and be drowned.

Young. Why fhould I fall in?

OLD. I cannot tell you the reason; but experience has taught me, that as often as a fly has attempted to pass through such a cloud of steam, it has dropped into it, and never risen again.

The old fly having, as she thought, sufficiently cautioned her, slew about her

business.

Directly she was gone, the young one turned

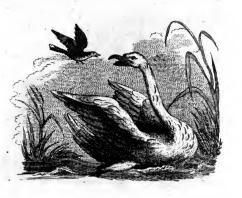
turned up her nose, and faid to herself, "How over-cautious these old folks are! Here I am denied the innocent amusement of flying over this steaming cauldron. Indeed, if I had no wings, or were for fimple as to be regardless of my own safe-ty, it would be a different case. So, good mother, notwithstanding your fine experience, I shall divert myself by slying about it, and let me fee who will draw me into it!"-This faid, the conceited thing hovered over the pot, and being involved in the boiling vapour, suddenly lost her strength, and dropped into the dreadful gulph. As she perished, she exclaimed, "How wretched is the child who difregards the admonition of its parent, and prefers its own wisdom to maternal experience."

#### The Lark and the Swan.

SWAN. Why do you continually hover over me?

LARK. I should like to hear you fing.

Swan. Hear me fing!—Where did you



you learn this pretty story?—Swans never fing.—

LARK. Indeed?-

SWAN. Never.

LARK. What! not just before your death?

SWAN. No.

LARK. Why, it is universally said so.

SWAN. Then, my young friend, you need not lose any more time;—and, remember, this is one of those ignorant mis-representations which the world have adopted and propagated.

The

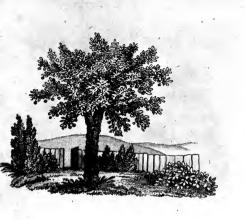
# The Eagle and the Rabbits.

An Eagle'came to a litter of rabbits, and bore off the young ones. The parents, in the most piteous accents, prayed the tyrant to spare their offspring; but in vain: he tore them to pieces before their face.

The forrows of the injured pair collected together the other inhabitants of the warren, who, determined to punish the invader, mustered all their forces, and, in two fuccessive nights, undermined the tree on which the eagle had built her nest .-On the third night a violent storm arose, and blew down the tottering trunk: the nest descended with it, and the eaglets, incapable of flight, were either dashed to pieces, or became an easy prey to the savage beasts of the forest, while the injured rabbits beheld their ruin unhurt.

MORAL. The mighty and most secure should avoid offending the poor and humble; for the latter, when united, are more than a match for the insolent and oppressive.

The



## The Cherry-tree and the Strawberry.

A FINE tall cherry-tree and a humble frawberry plant were neighbours in the garden. The former was richly laden with its black gloffy fruit, but the other was pressed close to the ground by its large swelling berries.—With a disdainful look the cherry-tree bent its boughs, and exclaimed, "How elegant and fruitful am I, compared to this earthy, crawling root.—I am of height sufficient to be admired far and near!"—The strawberry made no reply to this, but inwardly said to herelst:

"Your vanity, Sir, deceives you extremely. -It is not our high or low fituation in the world, that constitutes our value, but the esteem in which our produce is holden .- I bear as fweet and wholesome fruit as you do, and have not fuch a stony heart."

#### The Animals and the Sun.

"I wish the fun would shine with less warmth," exclaimed a weary ass, as he dragged a heavy load up a hill: "I am ready to drop with laffitude and perfpiration!"

"Thanks, fun, to thy enlivening beams!" faid the ferpent, "in thy rays I lie down,

and balk with pleasure."

The owl exclaimed: "Spare my fight, O fun; for thy hated light enters every

hole, and nearly blinds me!"

"Benevolent fun," faid the field mouse, "be very auspicious to my necessities: thy heat ripens my ears of corn, and sup-plies me with abundance."

The fun heard them, continued to shine,

and remained filent.

The



#### The Horse and the Ass.

An ass, burthened with a heavy load, as he journeved by the side of a horse unladen, entreated his affistance. "You are indolent!" said the churlish horse. "No," replied the ass, "I am, indeed, ready to sink with the weight, but half of it would be no more than a feather to you." The horse continuing to resuse, the ass sell exhausted under his panniers.—The poor animal was now unladen, his burden and himself thrown upon the horse, who severely repented his late want of feeling.



## The Eaglet.

An eagle had built its neft upon a fleep rock, and rendered its roof impervious to the florm. Seeing one of the eaglets put its head out, and look wiftfully on the vale beneath, the old ones forced it back into the neft.— While they were out in fearch of food; this youngfler ventured forth, thinking it could fafely reach the next crag; but, unaccustomed to fly, it fell down, and was nearly killed. The mother, hearing its cries, slew to succour it, but in vain.

vain. It died with these words on its lips:—" Had I but followed the advice of my parents, I should not have perished in this untimely manner."

## The Boy and the Silkworm.

An idle boy, instead of minding his book was constantly engaged in breeding of filkworms.—Seeing one of them busily employed in enclosing herself in her filken shroud, he faid to himself: " Why, you simple animal, do you bestow fo much labour to entomb yourself?"—
"You are in a mistake," replied the filk-worm; "what you conceive to be a coffin, is the vehicle that conveys me to a happier lot. I bestow this labour, in order that I may receive wings, and not always continue to be a helpless worm."

—The father, who had been listening to this, at a distance, then addressed his son. "Attend to the filkworm's instruction:he who would not live in obscurity all his days, must early store his mind with wisdom and industry, regardless of the labour



labour which is attendant on the short period of education.

## The Boy and the Bee:

A BEE had lodged in a flower, which a boy plucked to put in a nofegay, and then drove the little guest out of it—" Why so rude?" exclaimed the bee, angrily, I suppose you have never been stung.—You saw that I was in the flower, and peacaebly extracting the honey:—perhaps, young.

young gentleman, you think me too small to resent the insult, but I will in a moment convince you to the contrary."—
This threat she immediately carried into execution by stinging him severely; but, alas! she lest her sting behind, which occasioned her death. Experience too late taught her, that those who inslict their malice on others, are often their own persecutors.

### The Girl and the Silkworm.

"Foo, foo!" exclaimed Maria; when fhe first saw the silkworm; "it seems to have been formed to excite disgust, and to eat up the trees. If I were not asraid of spoiling my shoes I would certainly trample it to death."—"Restrain your passion, you little inconsiderate child," said the filk-worm; "you are not aware that you are indebted to me, the poor worm which you so much contemn, for the gay pelisse you are so proud of."

MORAL. We should never decide

MORAL. We should never decide hastily upon the value of things with which we are unacquainted, as it always exposes our ignorance and subjects us to shame.

The



The Decoy-bird.

A BIRD-CATCHER had spread his net, and fixed his decoy bird, who was a very sweet songster. The birds in the vicinity, attracted by his chaunt, repaired to the spot, and said to each other, "What a superfluity of food here is!—How kind it is of this stranger, who is so well provided for, to invite us to partake of his abundance.—It would be wrong to omit such an opportunity." They immediately descended, were entrapped in the net, and lost their liberty and life.—One bird, more

cautious than the rest, kept at a distance. "Who," said the decoy-bird, "made you so much wifer than your companions?" My father," replied the other:—"he often told me, when a great advantage was held out, for little or no purchase, to be cautious, for some deception was sure to lurk behind."

#### The Field Mouse.

A FIELD mouse was daily employed in laying up a store against the approaching winter; which every body, as well as mice, ought to do. His neighbour, who was young and thoughtless, spent his time in idleness and play. Seeing the ground of harvest so profusely covered with seed, he thought it unnecessary to provide in the present moment for the future, trusting that such a quantity of grain would never be wholly removed from the field. But, when the harvest time was over, he too late discovered the misery to which his stelleness subjected him. In the time of dearth, he was forced to beg, and at last, when nobody would relieve, died of wart.



#### The Cock and his Master.

A cock was loudly chaunting forth his vigilance, courage, beauty of plumage, and other qualifications. His mafter, who heard this exultation, finited and faid nothing.—The cock was offended, and faid, "Why do you laugh?—Have I faid any thing that is untrue?"—"Not fo," replied the matter; "but I fear that very few will give you credit for these things.—True merit always leaves its eulogium to others; while self-praise is ever suspected."

MORAL.

MORAL. It is probable that Frederic is a good boy, minds his book, and does as he is bidden; but, by always fetting this forth himself, he anticipates the praise of his tutors and playfellows, and is discredited by strangers, as he ought to let his commendation proceed from other lips than his own.

#### The Camel and the Cat.

CAT: Welcome, brother.

CAMEL. Why do you call me brother?

CAT. Am I not decorated with as

large a turret as you on my back?

CAMEL. Perhaps fo; but will yours ferve you to carry a load on, as mine does.

CAT. Certainly; give me yours, and you shall see me make the experiment,

immediately.

CAMEL. Ignorant thing, do you confider that my burthen is much too heavy

for you to bear.

CAT. What a deal you fay upon nothing-Pray give it me, and I will abide the trial.

CAMEL.

CAMEL. Take it:-there it is! CAT. Alas!-I cannot support it-I fink-I perish under its weight.

CAMEL. It ferves you right; -who-

ever aspires to the honours of the great, ought to be able to bear their burdens.

## The Wash and the Honey-pot.

A SWARM of wasps had fettled in a honey-pot, enjoying themselves with its fweets for a length of time; being satiated, they endeavoured to fly away; but found their wings and feet so smeared with the honey, that they were incapable of motion. One only had the caution to stay on the outside rim, where, though she was more scantily supplied, she was in less danger than her imprudent comrades. "I pity you, sisters," said she, as she flew away, "before you ventured so deeply in, you fhould have thought how you were to get out again."

MORAL. If, my dear child, you wish to enjoy the pleasures and sweets of life, taste them with caution and moderation.

Excefs



Excess is dangerous; but temperance is preservation.

### The Monkey and the Woodcutter.

A MONKEY, having for some time earnestly regarded a woodcutter as he was
cleaving a tree by the means of wedges,
said to himself, "How much unnecessary
trouble this man takes in inserting those
triangular pieces of wood at such short
distances!—I am sure I could do the same
with

with less difficulty."—On the wood-cutter going away for a few minutes, the monkey put his paw into the chasm, and pulled out the wedge, in consequence of which his foot was jammed in the wood.—The countryman returned, and took the poor animal prisoner, who was making the most doleful grimaces.

MORAL. Curiofity and want of forefight often bring us into difficulties. A fuperficial view of things frequently induces us to undervalue that which is our

master-piece.

#### The two Linnets.

A YOUNG linnet had the misfortune to be taken from the nest before it was scarcely sledged, while his twin-brother happily escaped, and passed his time among the joyous tenants of the air. The former had a small chain sastened to his pretty foot, and, after enduring much hunger and thirst, he was taught to raise his thimblefull of water, and open his seed-box.—Having once entangled his foot in the chain, and his young master taking it off

to disengage him, he slew out of a window that was open, and for a length of time enjoyed a repast of liberty and ease with his aërial companions. - One day inharvest. as he and his twin-brother were feeking for food, they unhappily were enfnared by a bird-catcher, who imprisoned them in a cage. The oldest, who had never been accustomed to confinement or misfortune, fluttered against the wires till he killed himself: the other, being habituated to fufferings and chains, bore his lot with patience, and at last became so familiarised to it, that he gained the good will of his master, who, delighted with his gentleness and tricks, made the remainder of his life comfortable and happy .- How often would this linnet thank Heaven, in its matin fong, that he had been taught in infancy to en-dure misfortune, which is the parent of fortitude and fubmiffion.

END OF PART. I.







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